REMARKS

1. Introduction

In the Office Action mailed December 29, 2004, which the Examiner designated as final, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neves et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,691,227 ("Neves") in view of Xu, U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0038339 ("Xu"). The Examiner also rejected claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as being indefinite.

Applicants have amended claims 19 and 20.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims, as amended herein, for the reasons set forth below.

Because this response is being filed within two months of the date of the final Office Action, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to either process this application as an allowance or provide an Advisory Action, pursuant to MPEP §§ 706.07(f) and 714.13.

2. Response to Rejections

a. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 19 and 20 under § 112 as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the recitations of "said care-of-address station" in claim 19 and "said first care-of-address" in claim 20 lacked sufficient antecedent basis. In response, Applicants have amended claims 19 and 20 to recite "said care-of-address," which language finds antecedent basis in the recitation of "a care-of-address" in claim 15.

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 19 and 20, as amended, comply with the requirements of § 112.

b.   Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-13, and 15-21 under § 103 as being unpatentable over Neves in view of Xu. However, the combination of Neves and Xu fails to teach each and every element of the claims.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner acknowledged that Neves does not teach "assigning a first range of globally unique port numbers to said first mobile node." However, the Examiner asserted that paragraph 143 of Xu teaches assigning a first range of globally unique port numbers to said first mobile node. In fact, Xu teaches negotiating a port number, within a given range of port numbers, for the *server* to use. For example, paragraph 142 of Xu states:

> Table 932 in FIG. 9B is a sequence table that may be maintained on packeting engine 900 allowing the *application server 971* to use not only the original service port P1, but also any service port D1 dynamically negotiated between the server and clients, within the range 1025 and 1125.

(Xu, ¶ 142)(emphasis added). Paragraph 143 of Xu continues the discussion of the Figure 9B example introduced in paragraph 142. Thus, the port number ranges mentioned in paragraph 143, i.e., 1025 to 1125 and 1126 to 1300, are not assigned to client 921 (which the Examiner has called a mobile node) but, rather, are made available by packeting engine 900 for server 971 to use. For example, regarding claim 2, the Examiner alleged that Xu teaches (in step 16 of Figure 9A) transmitting said first range of globally unique port numbers to said first mobile node. In fact, step 16 of Figure 9A shows only a single port number, D1, not a range of port numbers. Thus, Xu does

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not teach assigning a range of globally unique port numbers to a mobile node, nor does Xu teach transmitting a range of globally unique port numbers to a mobile node.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Neves, Xu, and the other prior art of record. Applicant further submits that claims 5 and 7-12 are allowable as depending from an allowable claim.

Regarding claim 13, the Examiner acknowledged that Neves does not teach using disjoint sets of globally unique port numbers for first and second mobile nodes. The Examiner alleged that Xu teaches such disjoint sets of globally unique port numbers for first and second mobile nodes. However, as noted above, the disjoint range of port numbers described in paragraph 143 of Xu, i.e., port numbers 1025 to 1125 and from 1126 to 1130, are port numbers that packeting engine 900 makes available for server 971 to use. Xu does not teach that these port number ranges are for first and second mobile nodes.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is allowable over Neves, Xu, and the other prior art of record. Applicant further submits that claims 15-21 are allowable as depending from an allowable claim.

3.   Other Matters

The Response that Applicants filed on August 19, 2004 included a Form PTO-1449 Supplemental IDS that cited one reference. The post card confirming that the Office received this Supplemental IDS is attached. However, the Examiner has not returned a signed copy of the Supplemental IDS.

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Accordingly, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of that previously-filed Supplemental IDS and respectfully request the Examiner to return a signed copy to indicate his consideration of the cited reference.
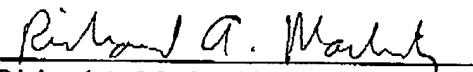
4.   **Conclusion**

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is hereby requested. Should the Examiner feel that further dialog would advance the subject application to issuance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 25, 2005   By: _Richard A. Machonkin_

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